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For Your Child



ONE'S FURNITURE

Marginal Comment

By John P. Reynolds

ONE of these days the Politburo in Moscow will have to decide what to do about Eastern Germany. Opinion is sharply divided, and although the matter has been thoroughly discussed at three recent meetings of the Big Fourteen, no decision has been reached. Until a few weeks ago the Kremlin was determined to transform Eastern Germany not only into another satellite state, but into a satellite No. 1. Then intelligence reports began to reach Moscow indicating that Eastern Germany might be a bad investment. It cannot be sealed off completely from the West and nowhere in Eastern Europe is Communist rule so shaky as in the so-called German Democratic Republic. Moscow's policy of building up Eastern Germany as a satellite No. 1 also caused considerable anxiety in other Eastern European countries, notably Poland and Czechoslovakia.

At the beginning of May it was therefore decided to reverse the policy. The Kremlin realized that its German policy was leading nowhere, and the Soviet authorities now proceeded with complete disregard for the feelings and the prestige of their German stooges. The German Communists were forced to accept the disappearance of hundreds of thousands of German prisoners-of-war, the final "settlement" of the reparations problem, and, above all, the Oder-Neisse boundary as established frontier between Germany and Poland. The satellites are delighted, and the German Communists are desperate. What they fear is that after the elections in the autumn—which are meant to legalize the present East German regime—the Russians will speedily sign a peace treaty, withdraw their troops and leave the German Communists to their own devices. Eastern Germany's place as satellite No. 1 is now reserved for Poland where Marshal Rokossovski is already busy with final preparations. But the Big Fourteen in the Kremlin are, of course, always capable of reversing themselves.

WHILE six nations were meeting in Paris to negotiate the details of the Schuman plan, top level representatives of the German and French heavy industries have been meeting behind closed doors, first in Düsseldorf and later in Paris, to make their own arrangements. The blunt fact is that coal and steel interests in both Germany and France are by no means enthusiastic about the Schuman plan. They are afraid of growing government interference with proper business operations and also fear that economic interests will be sacrificed for political advantages. An effort will now be made to reach some agreement for closer cooperation before the six governments now negotiating in Paris are ready with their machinery.

Jordan Back in Sterling Bloc

LONDON, Saturday (Reuter). — Jordan has joined the sterling area, according to simultaneous announcements here and in Amman today. She will have her own currency.

The Palestine Currency Board note which has been legal tender for the past 23 years will be replaced by the Jordan Dinar.

The event, the Currency Board stated, marked an important milestone in the progress of Jordan to a fully independent sovereign state since the signing of the Anglo-Jordan treaty of alliance in 1946.

First steps towards creating Jordan's own currency were taken 18 months ago, and toward the end of 1949 the Jordan Government passed a law setting up a Currency Board in London.

1,000 Fils—One Dinar

The new currency will consist of five denominations of note (50, ten, five, and one dinars and 500 fils) and six denominations of coin (100, 50, 20, ten, two, and one fils). One thousand fils equal one dinar which is on par with the pound sterling.

The notes were printed in London and the coins made by the royal mint. Except for the 500 fils note all notes bear the portrait of King Abdullah and in addition portray local features.

The Chairman of the Jordan Currency Board is Mr. W.M. Codrington, while its members are Prince Abdul Majid Haidar, Jordan Minister in London; Mr. C.E. Loomis, who is secretary of the Board; Sir Sargent, nominated by the Ottoman Bank; Mr. H.C.B. Freeman, who is secretary of the Board; and Lieutenant Colonel F.A. Kendrick, who is the Board's currency officer in Amman.

The Board's agents in Jordan are the Ottoman Bank and the Arab Bank Ltd.

Banks Crowded
Banks in Amman, the Old City of Jerusalem, and Nablus were crowded yesterday when people came to exchange their old coins and notes for new, according to Radio Ramallah last night. The old money will be declared illegal on August 1.

Throughout the Arab States, Jordan's place as satellite No. 1 is now reserved for Poland where Marshal Rokossovski is already busy with final preparations. But the Big Fourteen in the Kremlin are, of course, always capable of reversing themselves.

Measure Doesn't Affect Israel

LONDON, Saturday (PTA). — Commenting on the issue of new Jordan currency with the simultaneous re-entry of Jordan into the sterling area, Israel sources here today pointed out that Israel would have been affected by the measure had it been taken before the Anglo-Israel financial agreement was concluded as there existed, at that time, a common Currency Board for all Palestine.

The development was an expected and almost natural sequel to the Anglo-Israel financial arrangement, the sources said. Though Israel was unaffected at present there might be some effect in the future when Israel-Jordan trade relations develop.

The possibility of Israel's re-entry into the sterling bloc is not envisaged at present, and there does not exist any official Israel viewpoint on this issue.

Norway De Jure Recognition

OSLO, Saturday (Reuter). — Norway announced yesterday that it has granted de jure recognition to Israel. The announcement was made in the form of a royal resolution.

Norway recognized Israel as facts on February 4, 1948.

Open Door Bill For Herzl Anniversary

A bill decreeing that every Jew has the right to immigrate into Israel will be introduced in the Knesset on Tuesday night at a festive session marking the anniversary of Herzl's death.

With the budget finally out of the way, an agenda was compiled of 22 items from the backlog accumulated during the budget debates and including some new bills.

The Nationality Bill is high on the agenda while the long-discussed law for the abolition of capital punishment may also come up for discussion.

One of the most urgent articles of legislation is an amendment to the Compulsory Education Law extending the deadline for the registration of children for the coming school term. This bill passed its first reading a fortnight ago.

Three more bills, dealing with the registration of war dead, the maintenance of military cemeteries and compensation for the families of war dead, have completed their second readings in committee and may become law this week.

Ceremony on Mt. Herzl
A Herzl memorial flame will be lighted on Mount Herzl at eight o'clock on Tuesday evening in the presence of Cabinet Ministers, members of the Jewish Agency Executive and the general public. The ceremony, which will last for half-an-hour, will be broadcast.

During Wednesday, "Hamas" buses will operate a special service to Mount Herzl from outside the Bar Haim and Jaffa Road. The Army will participate in a closing ceremony at seven o'clock that evening on the Mount.

Reply to Lie Not Yet Sent

HAKIRYA, Saturday. — No reply has yet been sent by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the note sent by Mr. Trygve Lie, U.N. Secretary-General, asking member states what help can be given to implement the Security Council's resolution on Korea.

The Foreign Minister, Mr. Moshe Sharett, has acknowledged receipt of Mr. Lie's second communication, notifying member states of the full text of the Security Council's resolution.

Turkey Names Esin Minister to Israel

TEL AVIV, Saturday. — M. Seyfullah Esin, who came to Israel at the beginning of this year as Turkish Charge d'Affaires, has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary. It was officially announced here yesterday. M. Esin will be first Minister representing a Middle East country in Israel.

Israel is represented in Turkey by a Minister, Mr. Elias Sasson. M. Esin will present his letters of credence to President Weizmann at the latter's Rehovot residence on Monday morning. The President is leaving on Wednesday aboard the a.s. Kedma for Europe.

U.S. Conscript Bill Affects 19-26 Group

WASHINGTON, Saturday (Reuter). — President Truman yesterday signed a bill extending for one year his power to conscript men between 19 and 26 at any time.

The bill empowers the President to: (1) call up conscripts; (2) call up reservists or national guardsmen to keep the forces above the two million mark; and (3) order Army, Navy, Marine and Air Force and Coastguard reserves to active service stations.

Australia Speeds Mobilization Plans

SYDNEY, Saturday (Reuter). — The Sydney newspaper "The Sunday Sun" today reported in a dispatch from Canberra that the Australian Cabinet had instructed army commands to speed plans for a compulsory military training scheme in Australia.

"The Korean attack meant a big shake-up in defence plans as its success would constitute a grave danger to Australia," the paper said.

Queuille Given Confidence Vote As Premier

PARIS, Saturday (AP). — M. Henri Queuille started today a new Cabinet today winning a vote of confidence in the National Assembly. He was approved as Premier by 363 votes to 208.

In his statement of policy, M. Queuille appealed for unity to permit France to do her share in solving the international crisis. Initially, however, there were no indications that his call had been heeded.

The Executive Committee of the Socialist Party decided not to take part in the Cabinet. Members of the Committee said they would delay a decision on whether they would give him their legislative support until they had talked with him further about his programme. Their insistence on higher wages for civil servants had caused the fall of M. Bidault's Cabinet last Saturday.

The Popular Republican Movement (MRP) is insisting on pushing the Schuman plan, and their support of M. Queuille is conditioned on the return of M. Robert Schuman to the Foreign Ministry to oversee the work.

M. Queuille told the Assembly that he intended to push a change in the method of elections. This is demanded by his own party, the Radical Socialists, but opposed by the MRP which fears it will lose some seats under any new system.

It was against this background of deep-seated differences that M. Queuille started his round of consultations to pick members of his Cabinet. There were some doubts expressed that he would be able to select one which would get the support of the National Assembly unless the international situation causes a change of heart among the politicians.

Egypt Blames Korean War On 'East-West Conflict'

LAKE SUCCESS, Saturday (Reuter). Egypt announced non-support of the Security Council's resolution for members to aid South Korea when the Council met here last night.

Egypt May Close Canal to Korea Help

CAIRO, Saturday (Reuter). — Egyptian Foreign Minister Salah ed Din Bey informed the newspaper "Al-Ahram" today that the Egyptian Government is considering banning the passage of men and equipment by land, water and air through Egypt to help the Southern Korean forces because the neutrality which Egypt has formally announced might be violated.

The Foreign Minister, in answer to a question as to whether it was proposed to call a meeting of the Council of the Arab League to unify Arab policy on Korea, said: "There is no question of calling the Council together yet, but it may be necessary if the situation changes."

India's Position Limited to Korea

NEW DELHI, Saturday (AP). — The Indian Government reiterated today that there is "no question of alignment with any bloc" in its support of the Security Council resolution calling on the United Nations to aid South Korea.

An official source explained that India's stand is limited to the Korean situation and that its policy is unchanged regarding Formosa and Indo-China.

India has withdrawn recognition of the Chinese Nationalists and recognized established relations with the Peking Communist Government. It has not yet recognized any Indo-China Government on the ground that neither contending regime has yet proved it has the peoples support.

U.S. Infantry Fighting in Korea; Russian Reply Non-Committal

MacArthur Says Suwon Still Held; 12 U.S. Planes Lost

TAJEON, Saturday. — American fighting ground troops, ordered into the battle by President Truman last night, pushed up through the hills of South Korea tonight to meet the invading forces, reported pouring over the Han River in considerable strength.

The President's order had also authorized American aircraft to attack in North Korea and a naval blockade of the entire Korean coast.

In an historic airift through bad weather American troops from General MacArthur's Far Eastern Army in Japan landed in South Korea.

Early today South Korean military headquarters was hastily evacuated 90 miles southward to this provincial capital after a sudden enemy breakthrough at Suwon.

American observers said the South Korean defence had simply melted away. Within a few hours, heavy fighting was reported in progress at Suwon. The defenders were however reported to be holding the town.

Flurry of Reports
South Korean forces were in control of Suwon and American military men returned to their advanced base in that city after a flurry of reports that the Northern forces had captured the city. General MacArthur's headquarters said, however, that although the North Koreans had pushed a small spearhead up to Suwon, they had not succeeded in occupying the base.

A second announcement from "General MacArthur's headquarters tonight said that 12 American air force planes had been lost since the beginning of operations in Korea, including fighters, bombers and transports.

A U.S. Navy spokesman said the transportation operation of American troops from Japan to Pusan was "nearing completion."

In ordering the blockade yesterday President Truman apparently had two main objectives: 1) to prevent the North Koreans from making any more southern coast landings; and 2) to keep sea lanes open for the movement of U.S. troops and supplies. The blockade will probably have little effect on the shipment of any supplies Russia wants to send the Communist troops. (AP, UP, Reuter)

Mao Vows to Resist U.S. Aggression

LONDON, Saturday (Reuter). — Moscow Radio yesterday broadcast a statement by Chinese Communist leader Mao Tse Tung declaring that "U.S. aggression" in Korea will arouse wide and decisive resistance from the people of Asia.

The Chinese leader made his statement at a meeting of the Central People's Governmental Council in Peking.

Truman has torn to shreds all international agreements of the U.S. on noninterference in the internal affairs of China. This open disclosure by the U.S. of its imperialist face is useful to the people of China and the peoples of Asia. For American intervention in the internal affairs of Korea, Vietnam and the Philippines, there are no grounds.

No U.S. Comment

WASHINGTON, Saturday (Reuter). — There was no immediate official comment on the Soviet reply to the U.S. note on Korea received in Washington late Thursday.

A spokesman said he doubted whether there would be any further approaches by the U.S. to the Soviet Union.

U.S. Plane Crashes In South Korea

TOKYO, Saturday (AP). — U.S. Far East Air Force H.Q. announced today that a C54 transport carrying 23 persons including a crew of five crashed on a hilltop near Pusan, South Korea.

The announcement said that there were no survivors. There was no indication that it was one of the planes carrying American troops to Korea. The crash occurred yesterday.

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EXACTLY a week has passed since the dawn attack on South Korea last Sunday, and American troops are already in action there under the aegis of the United Nations. British and Australian warships have already joined the American Seventh Fleet, and thus for the first time the U.N. have been given the "teeth" required to remove a "threat to world peace."

The U.S. had laid itself open to acute embarrassment: only a week before the Korean outbreak the State Department representative, Mr. John Foster Dulles, was assuring Seoul that it would not be abandoned. General William Robert, until recently commander of the U.S. Military Advisory Group in Korea, was telling a "New York Times" reporter in Tokyo at the same time that although the Southern Koreans had no tanks, this was only a slight disadvantage in Korean territory, that one Southern Korean regiment could easily match an entire North Korean brigade, and that a full-scale attack "was just what was needed to complete the training of a South Korean Army." A good deal of all this seems to have been wishful thinking: tension and hostility on both sides of the frontier were continually reported to the United Nations by its special Korean Commission. Although all the evidence suggests that the Northerners were exclusively responsible for present hostilities, last March the President of Southern Korea, Dr. Syngman Rhee, in a broadcast speech indicated his Government's intention of "liberating" the Northern Koreans whose cries of distress, he said, could no longer be ignored. The Southern Republic, "free" for the purposes of American oratory, was "brutalized" by perpetual mobilization, according to recent reports of the U.N. Commission. Only a few weeks before the present catastrophe, the South Koreans received a sharp note from the State Department warning them that if they continued with inflationary economic policies and rocketing prices without making any serious effort at reform, the U.S. would reconsider whether it would continue aid. Until now Americans have been inclined to assume that any liberated people will automatically set up democratic parliamentary government, just as the Americans did after their own war of independence, and join the free nations in the fight against totalitarian rule. The experiences of the past few years have already shaken that confidence; as one senior official handling Philippine problems recently said, "I am afraid I am becoming more colonial every day." Korea will further demonstrate that American men as well as money and military assistance will be needed in areas which the U.S. feels essential to its own protection. The experts on Russian affairs in the State Department have pointed out that during the post-war period, the Russians have been quick to probe into areas of weakness, but have found prudence the better part of valour wherever the West seemed capable of resistance. It only remained for President Truman to select a line along which to say, "So far and no further."

THE WEEK IN THE KNESSET Four Days of Voting on Budget

FOR four days the Knesset sat from morning till night in order to complete the third reading of the Budget. As the Opposition, from right and left, had tabled some 300 amendments, it was not an easy job. It was, however, successfully performed by Mr. D. Z. Pinkas (Religious Bloc), the Chairman of the Finance Committee, who was aided by some Ministers, especially Mr. E. Kaplan.

The passing of the Budget in the Government's revised form—after a number of proposals made during the general debate and during the discussion in the Finance Committee—had been taken into consideration—was not so much a victory for the Coalition as for Mapai. The Coalition voted solidly (with the defection of the Sephardi representative, Mr. E. Eliazar) but was split over the reduction of the higher income tax for the higher income groups. It was symptomatic of the ease of manoeuvre which Mapai enjoys in the House that on this issue it could rely on the votes of Mapai and thus reverse a decision of the Finance Committee. The voting of 60 to 34 shows, moreover, that the position of the Government in the House remains as strong as ever.

Our Place in the World
 One of the main changes in the final Budget proposals, as passed by the House, is the transfer of IL 15m. from the secret Defence Budget to the Regular Budget. Mr. Pinkas announced that this was only the first step in bringing Defence into the general frame of ordinary expenditure. That this objective is desirable is obvious.

The discussions on the numerous amendments brought forth in some cases detailed criticism of the Department concerned, but were generally repetitions of the general debate. There were some new features, however. The Foreign Minister, recently back from South Africa, used the opportunity to stress once more the special position of Israel as a country with world-wide connections and interests and which cannot be compared with other countries of the same, or even larger, size.

It might be useful to impress on the public Israel's special position. There is much resentment over alleged high expenses for foreign representation and a general feeling that the "Tzema" programme is not applied to Government services as strictly as it is to the man-in-the-

By GERDA LUFT

street. This criticism is specially applied to representation abroad whether justified or not.

The women members of the Knesset made a renewed drive for special tax-exemptions for working women. They failed in much the same way as they failed last autumn when the problem of the earnings of the working women first came before the House. One of the causes of the failure was a split in the ranks of the women members.

Women's Opinion Divided

The cause for the split is, of course, that although all the women in the House profess to stand for women's rights they represent different social strata and are therefore subjected to different pressure groups. The middle-class women are interested not only in the incomes of the wives who work for a salary, but they also want tax exemptions for those who work in the business of their husbands. The left-wingers are concerned only with women wage earners.

One important item in the budget was passed only in a lump sum. Some IL 4.5m. was allotted to education, but the Knesset did not go into details of the expenditure. It will have to deal with specialized allocations at the end of the present session, as only then will it be possible to know the requirements of the Compulsory Education Law for the year beginning in September.

This position reveals that, despite all renewed efforts, preparations in the Education Ministry are not proceeding as speedily as was hoped. An important step in the right direction is being taken by the establishment of a commission in which the Government and the Municipalities will be represented.

As the Municipalities are intimately concerned with implementing the Compulsory Education Law they are responsible for buildings, teachers and much of the actual work of running the schools, much will depend on cooperation between them and the Government. The local authorities must, moreover, be sure that the Government will furnish them with the grants-in-aid necessary to maintain the school-system. A joint commission can help to solve the difficult problems involved, iron out differences and provide the necessary exchange of information.

As a change from ordinary days, the members of the Knesset spent their whole time in the Chamber in order to prevent the voting ma-

chine from being thrown out of gear. But nevertheless some questions were eagerly discussed behind the scenes. The differences within the Coalition were again thrown into relief by the absence of Rabbi J.L. Maimon from the weekly Cabinet meeting and the Prime Minister's talks with the Religious Bloc. It is significant that for the last few months, not a week has passed in which differences of opinion between the Religious Bloc and the "freethinkers" have not occupied the Knesset.

The second issue discussed concerned rumours of Cabinet reshuffles. They are not new, but were given additional strength by the admission of the Chairman of the Finance Committee that a reorganization is to take place to deal with the Ministry of Trade and Industry which has been leading only a shadow existence.

Question Time

A sub-committee of the Knesset under the chairmanship of Mr. Bar-Rav-Hai (Mapai) has finished dealing with the frequently discussed problem of question time. We have pointed out more than once in this column that the present system for putting questions to Ministers is unsatisfactory. The committee has come to the same conclusion and has made proposals to mend matters. It is the opinion that the Minister concerned should be bound to answer within a fortnight questions put to him by members; and that if he is unable to do so by the required date, he should inform the House in advance.

It is further proposed that the Minister should answer questions in person and not have them read out by the Knesset Clerk; if he is unable to be present, he should delegate this task to a substitute. Questions on the other hand, should be short and to the point. The questioner will have the right to put a supplementary question if not satisfied with his answer.

It will only be possible to judge these proposals when they have been put into practice. They have, to a certain extent, been fashioned on the British model. As, however, there are 14 parties in the Knesset as against three in the House of Commons, it has been thought necessary to limit the right of putting supplementary questions to the questioner. Otherwise every question might result in a general debate. If the new proposals are put into effect, Ministers, as well as members, will be responsible for making them work.

FIRST LOOK AT ISRAEL



Three generations of immigrants from Iraq get their first look at Israel at Lydda airport. Photo by Schlesinger

Readers' Letters

FIRST AID

The Editor, The Jerusalem Post Sir, — When one hears that hospital wards have to be closed for lack of nurses, one wonders why a voluntary corps of nurses has not been put together. It is an emergency, as it was in the days of the War of Independence when women of all ages and walks of life joined the Magen David Adom and learnt a lot of useful things.

Where are these women today? Most belonged to the Hagannah and were ready to give two days or two nights a week. Why not now? It is another kind of war, definitely less exciting, but nonetheless a war which has to be fought. I am sure that our women, who have on all occasions responded to appeal, will answer this time too, with the same devotion and self-sacrifice that characterized our people when it is a question of life and death.

Yours, etc.
 DVOBAH
 (Name and address supplied)
 Tel Aviv, June 27.

TICKETS, PLEASE

The Editor, The Jerusalem Post Sir, — In Israel one can buy a railway-ticket at the station only. No travel-bureau can sell tickets. Unfortunately the station booking-offices are closed 23 hours of the day and open only just shortly before the departure of a train. One cannot purchase a ticket the day before travelling. One can scarcely find such a situation in any other country.

Yours, etc.
 "GLOBETROTTER"
 (Name and address supplied)
 Jerusalem, May 27.

Railway's Reply

The Editor, The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I have the honour to inform you that we value the suggestion of selling tickets in advance, and that the matter is now being considered.

Yours, etc.
 MOSHE PEIKOVITZ
 Actg. General Manager
 June.

DAY OFF

The Editor, The Jerusalem Post Sir, — On the day of rest, most people are cooped up in their week-day surroundings, prisoners of the medieval mounds of the Orthodox groups. The overwhelming majority have the strange idea of seeking their Sabbath relaxation in places inaccessible on weekdays. Why they should not be allowed to indulge this

pleasure is beyond my understanding. The small minority who wish to observe the religious law to the letter will not be compelled to break it.

Yours, etc.
 THEODOR ARNOLD
 Benyamina, June 24.

PRELUDE TO CIVIL WAR IN KOREA

By A Special Correspondent

IT is still too early to obtain detailed and balanced information on the events that led up to the outbreak of war in Korea. One would have to have access to Soviet as well as Western sources, for the cables of "Hanguk Thonsin," the North Korean News Agency, are published only in the Russian press.

A full account of the preparations for the merger of the two sections of Korea appeared recently in the Russian monthly, "Bolshevik." It appears that a year ago, on June 25, 1949, the first session of the Communist-sponsored United Democratic Fatherland Front (UDFF) took place in Pheon in North Korea. This body was specially created in order to secure the unity of the peninsula and it was probably more than coincidental that the invasion was launched on that very day a year later.

In October, 1949, the Foreign Minister of North Korea informed the U.N. Secretariat of the wish of the Korean people, if (North Korea) would consider itself free to expel the U.N. Commission and to carry out the merger by its own forces.

Considerably helped by the notorious inefficiency of the South Korean Government, the Communists stepped-up their campaign for unification and eventually decided (early this June) to send emissaries to the South to contact political leaders there and to transmit certain proposals regarding the peaceful merger of the two sections of the country. In view of the fact that the frontier was closed, and taking into consideration the general prevailing tension between North and South, the Northern Communists could safely assume that their delegates would be turned back.

On June 14, "Pravda" published a dramatic account of the progress of the three lone pilgrims, Li In Gyo, Kim Tcha Hon and Kim Dia Chen who crossed the 38th parallel (the frontier of the two states) in the early hours of June 11 and continued on their way to Seoul. According to this report, which was confirmed by "Hanguk Thonsin" and also the United Press of America, they were arrested after having proceeded a kilometre into Southern territory. They were searched and brought to the nearest South Korean report, quoting the spokesman of the South Korean Army, they were turned over to a military court for trial.

Everything was "proceeding according to plan," with the South Korean leaders reacting as the Communists expected them to. The UDFF Secretariat issued a manifesto protesting against "the barbaric activities of the traitorous clique of Syngman Rhee (Southern Prime Minister) which, following the orders of the American imperialists, intends to foment a fratricidal civil war."

The leading Korean Communist paper "Nodon Sinyon" announced the creation of a "mighty mass movement in protest against the barbaric arrest of the delegates." But then the unexpected happened; the curtain came down and readers of the Soviet Press, impatiently awaiting reports on the fate of the members of the "peace mission," searched their newspapers in vain.

The next thing that everybody knew was that "South Korean forces had again violated the border, thus compelling the North Korean forces to take military counter-measures."

Ruth is composed as a panorama with modelled houses and figures in a setting of real sand and plants; whether episodes from Jewish history are illustrated in more or less naive "strip cartoons," or scientific drawings are illustrating some theme from natural history, there is always that feeling that the work was done with interest and pleasure.

Another outstanding fact is the intimate relationship achieved at this school between nature and children, city-born and bred. The school garden evidently plays a paramount rôle in their education, and both the practical and scientific results of work in it are highly satisfactory. The fruit and vegetables grown in the garden of the school and the lovingly and skilfully prepared botanical exhibits are equally indicative of the fact that these youngsters from the city are by no means isolated from the soil or insensitive to its call.

C. Z. K.

MUSICAL DIARY

THE first performance of Ben-Zion Orgad's "HaZvi Israel," a Symphony for Orchestra and Baritone solo, was given at the L.P.O.'s Special Concert at the Edison, Jerusalem, on Thursday. The 24-year-old composer wrote the text of David's lament over Saul and Jonathan, "HaZvi Israel — the Beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places." With such an emotional theme, we were puzzled by the strange abstractness that pervaded its 30 minutes. There was not the least trace of colour, or much melody. It is constructed according to a dry formula, as in a riot. We prefer the "David" Symphony of M. Mahler-Kalkstein, not to mention Leonard Bernstein's Jeremiah Symphony, composed at the same age. Lipa Horenstein was the soloist and Leonard Bernstein conducted.

Tourel, Bernstein, Mahler

All the more welcome was Mahler's "Das Lied von der Erde," a Symphony for Mezzo-soprano, Tenor and Orchestra. It is a blend of song, cantata and symphony in a perfect amalgam. Even if one is far from liking Mahler's symphonies, it must be admitted that here Mahler, always at his best in symphonies, has created a masterpiece. This "farewell" symphony is a unique, always

pathetic, but yet sublimated adieu. Instead of melancholy, it breathes resignation and the wisdom of maturity. Using the pentatonic scale, as fitting the spirit of the Chinese poem which provides the words, it has the bitter-sweet Mahler melody. It is significant that Mr. Bernstein should give us this for his farewell concert, which is, of course, only an omen.

Ernest Garay has a beautiful lyric tenor, but his enunciation left much to be desired. Jennie Tourel was a delight stirring us with delicate musical feeling and exemplary rendering. Young Bernstein's ecstatic temperament, completely under control, was appropriate to this fascinating score. Mahler's melodic lines came gleaming from the inspired orchestra.

Israel Piano Music

Compositions of ten Israel composers were presented in a piano recital by Frank Pelleg in the Hall of the Music Section of the Ministry of Education and Culture, which arranged the event.

Max Brod's two Rustic Dances have colour and vitality and are like a counterpart to Bartok. There is an interesting quotation from Schumann's "Carnaval" in the bass. Herbert Bruen's Hora, influenced by Stravinsky, revealed two rare qualities: talent and taste, demonstrating that even a hora can

have grace. The theme has an engaging Hassidic touch.

Anron's Rhapsody is descended from Bach's Toccata in D minor. Rosowsky was typical of the Russian-Jewish school, while Stutschewsky seems to be seeking a way of blending that same style with Israel colour. Gelbrun has temperament and passion; his Sonata is on the lines of Ravel-Prokofiev.

The remaining items were a trial for pianist and audience, both having to strain every nerve. It was difficult to discover a positive trait in the whole output. Some of the composers have fashionably changed their names and the programme omitted their old ones — or perhaps they had no name to lose.

FRANGO

Liturgical Cantata

The second Tel-Aviv concert in the current Music Festival, at the Ohel Shem-Hall on Tuesday, although more interesting than the "Kirya Serenade," was less well attended. On this occasion a great instrumental and vocal ensemble performed an engaging programme and, in general, the effort was not in vain.

The piece de resistance was the first performance of P. Ben-Haim's "Liturgical Cantata for Choir, Baritone Solo and Orchestra," a work of about 35 minutes playing-time. It is, in my opinion, the

most satisfying score this composer has given us for many years. In this cantata he has developed with great skill and genuine dramatic impulse a well-balanced and convincing synthesis between choir and orchestra. Although the text is based on liturgical prayers, the instrumental language only occasionally employs Hebrew, or even general oriental, flourishes but it is partly modernistic and partly — strange as it may be — influenced by the Protestant Choral Liturgy. It may be just these various stylistic ingredients that give the music its vitality.

The performance of the Tel Aviv Chamber Choir and Karel Salomon, the soloist, was better than that of the Kol Israel Orchestra, which produced uninterruptedly an unbalanced predominance of brass over strings.

The programme also included Karel Salomon's "Yehushalam" Concertino for Clarinet and Orchestra with Werner Liebenthal as soloist. No other musical work reflects the personality of its composer as well as this. Joseph Schocken gave an excellent rendering of two new and effective songs by Yehuda Edot, words by Y. Carmi and Miriam Jelen-Steklis, and we also heard Aviasal Bernstein's Variations on Ben-Yoseph's "Yesh Li Kinereth."

Imagination and Dexterity

One of the main impressions of the exhibition is the high degree to which the school is developing both the imaginative forces of their pupils and their manual dexterity. Drawing, painting, modelling, all kinds of handicraft in wood, metal, cardboard, straw, and other materials are not separate "disciplines" taught by special lessons, but are means of expression in every part of the school's curriculum.

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